

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling the speed of a vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

changing a desired value for said speed by actuating an operator-controlled element; and,

5 adjusting the extent of the change of said desired value in dependence upon at least one piece of data as to the instantaneous driving situation of said vehicle.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said instantaneous driving situation is defined by the instantaneous location of said vehicle.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said instantaneous driving situation is defined by the roadway over which said vehicle is instantaneously traveling.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said instantaneous driving situation is defined by the instantaneous actual speed of said vehicle.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein various extents of the change of said desired value are assigned to different speed ranges.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the extent of the change of said desired value is pregiven at an operator-controlled element for different driving situations.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the extent of the change of said desired value is changed by means of a hysteresis in dependence upon the instantaneous driving situation.

8. An arrangement for controlling the speed of a vehicle, the arrangement comprising:

an operator-controlled element for changing a desired value for said speed;

5 means for detecting at least one piece of data as to an instantaneous driving situation of said vehicle; and,

an evaluation unit for adjusting the extent of the change of said desired value in dependence upon said at least one piece of data as to said instantaneous driving situation of
10 said vehicle.